

Message

From: Wu, Jennifer [Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/29/2018 3:11:41 PM
To: Palmer, John [Palmer.John@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Dam Permits - ESA Consultation

They were going to look into it, but I'll ask again. They weren't sure. I'll set up a time to talk with you on Friday. Have fun in Portland and in the tribes the next couple of days. Sorry to miss them!

From: Palmer, John
Sent: Wednesday, August 29, 2018 8:07 AM
To: Wu, Jennifer <Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Dam Permits - ESA Consultation

Hi Jenny,

Did you get a chance to ask the Corps if they describe the oil/grease and anesthetic discharges in the FCRPS BE. I actually believe it would be great if they did and they probably should. That way the Services can include the effects of those discharges in the FCRPS BiOp. Those effects would be included as part of the operation of the dams. Our permit would be a separate action, but the effect would be covered as part of the env baseline. Let's talk more on Friday or next week.

John

From: Wu, Jennifer
Sent: Monday, August 27, 2018 9:39 AM
To: Palmer, John
Subject: RE: Dam Permits - ESA Consultation

Thanks, John!

From: Palmer, John
Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 2:49 PM
To: Ritchie Graves - NOAA Federal <ritchie.graves@noaa.gov>; Soscia, Mary Lou <Soscia.Marylou@epa.gov>
Cc: Michael Tehan - NOAA Federal <mike.tehan@noaa.gov>; Wu, Jennifer <Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Rosemary.Furfey@noaa.gov; Ryan Couch - NOAA Federal <ryan.couch@noaa.gov>
Subject: RE: Dam Permits - ESA Consultation

Hi All,

Yes, the ball is EPA's court after some conversations between Ritchie and I. Right now, Jenny is in conversations with the Corp and BOR and beginning frame the permit. Our plan is to circle back with NOAA soon to work out specific steps moving forward. I think it's unlikely that we will want to attempt to fold this into the FCRPS action/BE/BiOP. We will be issuing a draft and final permit this year to the Corp and BOR to cover certain effluent discharges at the dams. We will need to work with you on the consultation approach. We'll set up a meeting to discuss very soon.

Thanks,
John

From: Ritchie Graves - NOAA Federal [<mailto:ritchie.graves@noaa.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, August 23, 2018 2:29 PM

To: Soscia, Mary Lou <Soscia.Marylou@epa.gov>

Cc: Michael Tehan - NOAA Federal <mike.tehan@noaa.gov>; Wu, Jennifer <Wu.Jennifer@epa.gov>; Palmer, John <Palmer.John@epa.gov>; Rosemary.Furfey@noaa.gov; Ryan Couch - NOAA Federal <ryan.couch@noaa.gov>

Subject: Re: Dam Permits - ESA Consultation

Mary Lou:

John and I had a couple of very preliminary discussions, considered a few options, and asked legal council for advice. We have not spoken for many weeks.

From my point of view... the ball is NOT in our court. We have no proposed action and no analysis of effects (from EPA).

It is also my understanding that EPA wants to keep this issue (approval of the permits) separate from the broader FCRPS consultation. I have been very clear with John that we have next to zero bandwidth to work on a separate consultation in the time frame you are contemplating.

I would be happy to discuss this further with you by phone if I am misunderstanding one of these key points, or if something has changed from EPA's point of view.

-Ritchie

Ritchie Graves
Columbia Hydropower Branch
Interior Columbia Basin Office
NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region

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On Thu, Aug 23, 2018 at 1:25 PM, Soscia, Mary Lou <Soscia.Marylou@epa.gov> wrote:

Michael:

I wanted to check back about the ESA consultation on the WA federal dam permits.

I spoke to Jenny Wu today, EPA R10 lead on developing the permits. Jenny told me that John Palmer and Ritchie Graves have been in discussion about the ESA consultation.

I am hopeful that these conversations are addressing the schedule issues for NOAA consultation that you and I discussed today.

We are still working to meet a 12/31/18 date for final permits.

I am also going to work to get Jenny on the Sept 18th Columbia River Federal Caucus agenda for a “no surprises update” on the development of the dam permits. I am copying Rosemary to start that Caucus agenda planning conversation.

We can also add that to Dan’s conversation at the upcoming Fed Exec meeting if that would be helpful as well.

Thanks, Mary Lou

Mary Lou Soscia | Columbia River Coordinator | US EPA

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